

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editors are not responsible for the views of Correspondents.

We are well pleased with the Alliance shoes—Jno. Hammond, Robeson Co., N. C.

I am always interested in the original and most excellent reading matter of The Farmer. Among the many that are good, I have been benefited, instructed or entertained especially by those written by Mr. Archer, of Mica, N. C. I see he is again in your columns, and as usual after the money lords, combines, &c. He is an old hunter after these animals and I have noticed he is sure to tree his game every time and I wish the league he writes about success, and I am for one ready to join anything on that line.

W. A. LEE
Johnston Co., N. C.

COLUMBUS COUNTY ALLIANCE.

Correspondence of The Progressive Farmer.

I wrote you sometime ago that our county meeting would be in January. We have decided not to hold it till the second Thursday in February, on account of Bro J. C. Bain being with us then. It will be held at the county seat of Columbus county. A full delegation is expected and all friendly are invited.

JNO R. BALDWIN,
Sec'y Treas. C. C. F. Alliance.

NOT "NIGGER," NOT TRUFF, BUT TRUSTS, THE ROOT OF THE EVIL.

Correspondence of The Progressive Farmer.

Scoundrels and philosophers as we may, we can't find a single instance in our county (Pasquotank) where a farmer has been struck with the wave of prosperity, although a very loud noise is being made of its approach with the moneyed men, such as bankers, railroad bosses and all who are getting their living by the sweat of somebody else's brow. The farmer has the sweet satisfaction only of hearing and reading of this great prosperity howled about so much by these fellows.

The great wave which is pouring such treasures in their laps, is submerging and destroying the farmer, the evil influences of which is driving many from the farm. Most all of our sons who are fortunate enough to have a little learning are bidding adieu to the farms and seeking a more lucrative business, as soon as their father turns them loose; and not a few succumb to the evils common in big cities and are destroyed.

How long these conditions will exist, the Lord only knows. It is to be hoped, however, that the farmers and all others that are contributing to the already enormous piles of these money men, without getting their just share, will wake up and make an effort at least, to remedy it. We have got to bear the great lion in den, but it can be done. We have got to fight the devil with fire, as the saying goes, and to do that, we must organize, as they have done, nothing short of our getting together, it seems, will produce the desired relief. It is wrong, from a Bible view, to do that. The loud noised religion and goodness of the people of our great country ought to forbid such combinations taking advantage of one another. It is high time we began to practice what we preach, or else stop preaching altogether.

What a farce and a shame upon the people to lay claims to Christianity and at the same time sanction such robbery and unholiness as is going on in our country to day! It seems the Lord hath poured out upon us "the spirit of deep sleep" for closing our eyes and rejecting His righteous laws. The farmers and other workers in the great hive of industry seem to be the soundest in sleep just now. They are being devoured by the other fellows who always seem wide awake to their business interest and sharp enough to feed upon them without so much as disturbing them in their slumbers.

They tell the farmer if he will make 13 hours instead of 6 he will make money and be independent. The same fellows tell the farmers the reason cotton, corn, rice, etc., is so cheap, is that there is so much raised, and don't seem to have sense enough to see the inconsistency of their foolish theory. All sensible farmers know that overproduction is not the cause of hard times with them. They also know that it is not laziness with them that makes the prices of their field products low, neither does the negro or tariff have anything to do with it. But combinations and trusts made and operated by the rich is the cause. A way faring man, or any other man not an overgrown fool, ought to have found out this simple thing by this time. But I'm sorry to say some have not found it out yet, and are still waiting for the Lord to both wake them up and make the oppressor stop oppressing and devouring them.

THOMAS MEADS
Pasquotank Co., N. C.

THE EXTENSION OF OUR COMMERCE.

Correspondence of The Progressive Farmer.

It seems quite evident that the real object in inaugurating our present policy in the Philippines was the extension of our commerce in the East. Whilst it is my purpose at this time to discuss the question in its economical aspects mainly; yet I cannot refrain from saying that our treatment of the Philippines is without any justification whatever, from a moral point of view. It is contrary to the fundamental principles of our government, to say nothing of the precepts of the religion which we as a people profess to reverence.

We claim the right to govern ourselves as we see fit and would resist to the utmost any interference with this right from without, and yet we are denying this right to others and killing them because they resist. And who are we that we should claim the right to regulate others? We claim to be a Christian people, and yet our government is full of corruption from the halls of National legislation to the council chambers of our cities. Even our temples of justice are not entirely free from defilement. We claim to be a free people, and yet we allow corporations to tyrannize our own people and plunder them at will.

The blood of the thousands who are being killed in defence of their inalienable right to govern themselves will be on the hands of those who inaugurate and are perpetuating this unrighteous war. It has already cost us in treasure, aside from the blood that is being spilt, more than any trade we will likely secure by means of it will be worth and the end is not yet. It is impossible to estimate what it will yet require to complete the subjugation of the people and maintain our supremacy over them but it is quite sure to cost a great deal more blood and treasure.

When all this is accomplished, it will quite likely furnish a fine field for the exploiters to open up mines and build railroads, and thus add to the wealth of those who already have more than enough, but it will not open up such a large market for our manufactured goods as many imagine, nor the market develop as rapidly as some think. The wants of Eastern people living in tropical climates are small at best. England has been trying for more than two centuries to develop the imports of India. They were about 40 cents per capita at the outset and may have grown to the magnificent figure of 70 cents per capita.

But the principle object in the minds of many in securing a footing in the Philippines is to use them as a base from which to work for the extension of our trade in China. Putting aside the possible danger of marauding ourselves in complications far more serious than those that now beset us in the Philippines, let us carefully investigate the real value of the trade and compare it with trade that can far more easily be developed among our neighboring nations in South America.

If we do this, I am quite sure we will find that the old adage "far off fields look green," will hold good in this case. China is several thousand miles away. This greatly increases the cost of transportation and makes communication slower and adds to its cost, especially when quickness is necessary. South America is near by, lessening cost of transportation and greatly facilitating communication.

The wants of the Chinese are few and simple. They are accustomed to a low plane without any high aspirations or ideals. They are intensely prejudiced against buying anything of outside manufacture. It necessarily compels its use they generally make it rather than buy it. Careful observers of them in California, where they have lived in numbers for half a century, say this trait remains fixed in them even under the environment of our civilization. How, then, will it be possible to make any material change in them in their own country?

Another difficulty is the fact that living in the same temperate zone with ourselves, with similar climate and soil their products are in the main similar and can readily be made more so should occasion require.

With a population of about 400,000,000 they import less than \$150,000,000 of goods, or about 40 per cent.

On the contrary, the larger portion of the population of South America are similar to ourselves in customs and habits and are buying in Europe almost entirely the goods for which we are seeking a market. The climate of the larger part of the continent is tropical or semitropical and their products mainly such as we cannot advantageously produce, and are buying of them largely, but by that means we must fail to pay for with our goods to any considerable extent, but allow Europe to sell to them. They, with a population of about 50,000,000 import about \$300,000,000 worth of goods, or about \$6 per capita and afford a better field for further development than ex-

ists in China. It could be secured to us by kindly intercourse without trampling on the rights of others and slaughtering them for resisting, and with the expenditure of far less treasure than we are now wasting in the East.

But there is another side to this question of the development of China which few seem to consider, although it is a matter of the greatest importance. In one of its recent issues Bradstreet says: "When the vast natural resources of the Empire begin to be systematically developed by foreign capital, the other side of China's trade extension may become perceptible. It is for instance claimed that the iron and coal deposits of China are the greatest in the known world; the supply of labor is certainly a vast one; and it requires but little prophetic acumen to point out that some day China will figure as a great competitor in many lines of industry in the markets of the world."

The development of China may yet prove a boomerang that will deal our industrial system a fearful blow. Baron Richthofen, the celebrated geologist, estimates that her coal bed covers 400,000 square miles, and other ores are abundant.

From the employee's point of view, they will make ideal laborers in utilizing labor-saving machinery. They are patient and well satisfied with a low plane of living, and at the same time industrious, skilful, somewhat ingenious and with a remarkable talent for imitation.

Prof. Garrett has found that the densest population in this country supported by agriculture is forty five persons to the square mile; but China, an agricultural people, has in her most thinly settled provinces sixty-nine persons to the square mile, and several provinces have from four hundred to nearly six hundred to the square mile. These facts are a sufficient proof of all I have said of the character of her labor, and prove conclusively that China's product and resources is labor.

Well may the producers of our country be alarmed if the exploiters succeed in their schemes and develop its marvelous resources, utilize its degraded labor and have its finished products come in competition with those of our own country.

Geo E Rogers

Haywood Co., N. C.

THE TRUST SYSTEM THE HOPE OF THE COUNTRY—AS MR. MURDOCK SAYS IT.

Correspondence of The Progressive Farmer.

Specie redemption has had its day and will give away to a financial system in harmony with modern improvements. Before the invention of labor saving machinery, when communities lived on their resources and competition, as it now exists, was unknown prices in each country often varied one and two hundred per cent. In one country a product would be plenty and cheap and in another scarce and dear; and this, too, when each country maintained specie redemption. There were not the facilities as to day to distribute products throughout the civilized world.

With modern improvements the world is brought into closer communication and staple products are cheaply distributed all over the civilized world. Now each nation throws its surplus staple products on the world's market in competition with all others and the conversion of currency into primary money forces the higher civilization, with their greater wants, to take the same price for their products as the lower civilization with their primitive habits, and it forces a direct competition between the higher and lower civilizations that did not exist previous to the invention of labor saving machinery.

Primary money answered to the age of the slow coach and spinning wheel, but will not answer to the age of modern improved methods of transportation which has brought the civilized world ten times nearer together and made all competitors. Competition between the higher and lower civilization, each equipped with all of the improved methods, forces the prices in the higher civilization to the level of the prices of the lower civilization while the wants of the higher civilization are two to five fold greater than those of the lower civilization. The competition between the higher and lower civilization forces the higher to take the same price as the lower.

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this competition is at the bottom of all our financial woes.

The completion of the co-operative system will do away with all primary money. Under the competitive system prices are determined by the lower civilization, and it is impossible for the higher civilization to secure enough dollars to distribute all they can produce and the people demand.

The trusts will be compelled to push up prices to the maximum before they can secure enough dollars to distribute the output and supply the demand of the higher civilization, and this will force prices up above the world's market price one hundred per cent., and this will place a premium on gold of one hundred per cent. and prices and wages will be measured and exchanged with United States notes at the price fixed by each class.

I predict that in five years every class will be forced inside of a trust to escape an increasing and ruinous competition, and in eight years the trust system of classes will be completed and prices and wages all around forced up to the point where every class can command the dollars to exchange all produced and run every industry on full time until the wants of all are supplied and primary money in this country will be a thing of the past. The trust is the only power that can push up prices and secure the dollars that will distribute all produced.

The farmers' trusts must be organized on a different line from that of the industries who issue stock which is thrown on the market and made a foot ball by the gamblers on the value of stocks. The farmers must organize trusts, rent warehouses, insure and borrow money of the banks on the products deposited, and advance this money to the depositors of products held and sold at the trust's prices as there is a demand.

There are one thousand counties that raise cotton and one man from each county can organize a Cotton Raisers' trust and ten thousand dollars will put the trust on its feet and make it a success, and this would call for an average of ten dollars from each county raising cotton. The plan of organizing farmers' trusts will prohibit all gambling and speculation and reward every member of a class according to his merit. The industries will be forced to reorganize on a new line that will prohibit all speculation. Speculating belongs to the competitive system and can have no place in the perfected trust system. In the industries there are too many enemies to make corner that will ruin confidence in the industries and corner money and force up the interest to a ruinous rate and produce a panic.

It was my intention to have furnished an outline by which a cotton raisers' trust could be organized and all the money borrowed that would be necessary to hold the cotton crop and sell as there was a demand. I was deterred from doing so because of the campaign going on, which will decide whether the people shall be permitted to co-operate, fix prices that will secure the money to distribute all produced as to the final result we have no fears, as the goodness of the people will elect Congress and President pledged to keep their hands off of business. What we need is a thorough organization of all classes so they can be the masters of their labor, wages and products. These combinations can be controlled by a national board of equalization.

The industrial classes can accomplish all they want without further legislation, and this can be accomplished by organizing for the betterment of the financial condition of the people. We can organize at once and utilize the financial system as it is, fix prices on wages and in the end we will get that which is best for us by the mutual consent of every class. We cannot see

Beware of Ointments for Catarrh that contain Mercury.

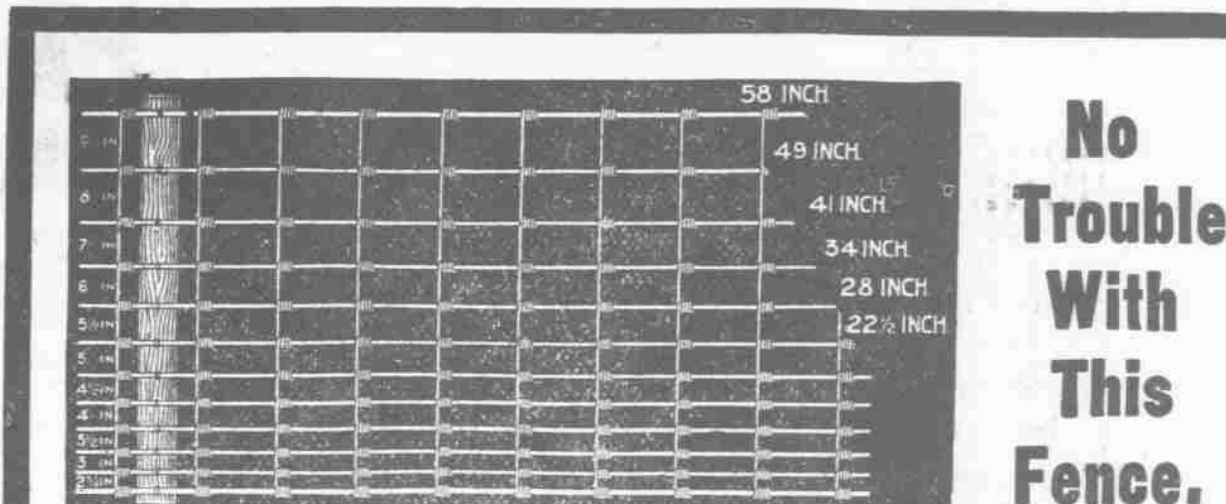
as mercury will surely destroy the sense of smell and completely derange the whole system when entering it through the mucous surfaces. Such articles should never be used except on prescriptions from reputable physicians, as the damage they will do is ten fold to the good you can possibly derive from them. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O., contains no mercury, and is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. In buying Hall's Catarrh Cure be sure you get the genuine. It is taken internally and is made in Toledo, Ohio, by F. J. Cheney & Co. Testimonials free. Sold by Druggists, price 75c. per bottle. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

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rich by making war on the people's financial system. Organize trusts, push up prices and there will be a margin of profit to the wealth-producers. The concentration of capital is an established fact, as it cheapens production and distribution and the wealth-producers must organize and receive their share. The industrial classes need no new laws to organize and secure prosperity. Take the tariff out of politics and place it in the hands of a tariff commission composed of the best business men and let it all the great industries be represented by this commission and give to them the full power to adjust the tariff from time to time as the exigency demanded and we will need no further laws to make the farmers' trusts a complete success.

JAMES MURDOCK.

Swain Co., N. C.



A PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR. \$100 REWARD.

State of North Carolina, Executive Department.

Whereas, official information has been received as this Department that Berry M. L. an, on November 29, 1899 at Rowland in Robeson county, did kill and murder one Joe Williams.

And Whereas, it appears that the said Berry M. L. an has fled the State, or so conceals himself that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon him:

Now, therefore, I, Daniel L. Russell, Governor of the State of North Carolina, by virtue of authority in me vested by law do issue this my Proclamation offering a reward of One Hundred Dollars for the apprehension and delivery of the said Berry M. L. an to the Sheriff of Robeson county at the Court-house in Lumberton and I do enjoin all officers of the State and all good citizens to assist in bringing said criminal to justice.

Done at our City of Raleigh, the 5th day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and in the one hundred and twenty-fourth year of our American Independence.

D. NIELL RUSSELL
By the Governor, RAYLUS CADE, Sec'y.

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